Allocation of power to Rajasthan from Central power grid

50. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the allocation of power to Rajasthan from the Central power grid has been reduced during the past three years;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of reduction in the power allocation to Rajasthan during the last three years (year-wise) stating the rationale for reducing the State's share in electricity ;

(c) whether Government propose to review the formula for allocating power to the State of Rajasthan; if so, what is the decision, if any, taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, whether Government would consider this question?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no proposal to review the formula.

Claim of Rajasthan in power generation projects

51. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of power generation projects in which the Government of Rajasthan have claimed state's share ;

(b) whether the Rajasthan Government have stated ad-hoc claim for their share in Anandpur Sahib and Mukerian Hydel Projects both in the project cost and the benefits:

(c) if so, what is the decision, if any, taken by the Government in the matter; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative what are the reasons for delay in taking a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal for lignite based thermal power station in Rajasthan

52. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to install a lignite based thermal power station in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, what is the estimated mineable lignite reserves in Rajasthan and the amount of energy likely to be generated from this source;

(c) what is the estimated project cost, the estimated generation capacity of the power station and the manner in which the project is proposed to be financed; and

(d) whether the proposed lignite based thermal power station is likely to come up during the Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (d) The proven reserves of lignite in Rajasthan are estimated at 385 million tonnes. Detailed exploration has been undertaken in different promising areas with a view to identifying mining projects and linked power projects.

Neyveli Lignite Corporation has prepared a feasibility report for a lignite mine of 1·7 million tonnes per annum capacity and a linked power station of 2 × 120 MW installed capacity. The proven reserves of lignite in this area are about 61 million tonnes. The mine-cum-power project is expected to yield benefits towards the end of the Eighth Plan period. As per provisional estimates made in July, 1988, mine-cum-power project may cost Rs. 718 crores.

A number of foreign parties have shown interest in the project.

Fictitious bill by Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking

53. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the billing cycle by DESU is seldom observed and that the consumers are sent accumulated and fictitious bills after a gap of 12 to 14 months thus making it difficult for the consumers to make payment of large amount;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the electricity bills are not based on actual consumption/reading of meters but on an average and fictitious reading which is incorrect; and

(c) if so, what corrective measures have been taken by the Government or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) According to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, electricity bills are normally sent once in two months in the case of domestic consumers and on monthly basis in the case of industrial/bulk supply consumers. The billing cycle is normally adhered to. However, there has been some dislocation in sending bills to the consumers for longer periods due to certain procedural/administrative constraints. According to DESU, consumers have the facility to deposit the amount of the bills of more than 2 months consumption in instalments.

(b) and (c) According to DESU, normally electricity bills are issued on the basis of meter reading except in certain cases where meter reading cannot be taken due to defective/burnt meters etc. On certain occasions provisional bills had to be issued due to shortage of meter reading staff. Such bills are subject to adjustment in the subsequent bills to be prepared on the basis of actual meter reading.

The work of electricity billing is in the process of being streamlined through progressive computerisation of bills for which in-house computer has been commissioned by DESU in December, 1987.

Allotment of industrial plots/sheds to ex-servicemen

54. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of industrial plots/sheds allotted to ex-servicemen stating the number of industrial ventures that have actually come up during the past three years, State-wise;

(b) what is the number of industrial plots/sheds which are yet to be